

MICHIGAN Fishing Guide

Rules apply from April 1, 2006 through March 31, 2008



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Great Lakes, Great Times, Great Outdoors



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The Natural Resources Commission, as the governing body for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, provides a strategic framework for the DNR to effectively manage your resources. The NRC holds monthly, public meetings throughout Michigan, working closely with its constituencies in establishing and improving natural resources management policy.

Regulations that apply to fishing for trout and salmon on inland waters are included in a separate publication, *Michigan Inland Trout & Salmon Guide*

For information on the Michigan Department of Community Health’s Fish Consumption Advisory, see page 21 or go to www.michigan.gov/mdch



Public access to fishing is supported by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the State’s natural resources for current and future generations.

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New regulations appear in red throughout the guide.

A complete listing of regulations and legal descriptions are available on our Web site: www.michigan.gov/dnr

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This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

Major Regulation Changes

- **Statewide — Catch and Immediate Release Bass Regulations**, see Note 2 on p. 8 and common terms on p. 18. Anglers please note: for this type of fishing the use of artificial lures can reduce mortality.
- **Statewide — Gear Restrictions** The fishing method commonly known as “drop-shotting” is now legal on inland lakes, Great Lakes, and Great Lakes connecting waters only. Drop-shotting is a method whereby a weight is suspended below a hook that is tied directly to the fishing line. This gear **may not** be used on rivers, streams, or drowned river mouths (see Note 3 on p. 6).
- **Great Lakes — Lake Trout** Lake trout regulation changes have occurred in several management units of Lake Huron, Lake Michigan and Lake Superior, see Table 1 p. 6.
- **Lake Huron — Splake** In Lake Huron, lake trout and splake open seasons and size restrictions are the same, see Table 1 p. 6.
- **Lake Erie — Walleye** The possession season for walleye is now open all year, see Table 2 p. 8.
- **Lake Michigan Waters of Green Bay — Walleye**, see Note 3 on p. 9.
- **Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters — Lake Sturgeon** New regulations are in place, see Table 6 p. 12.

New regulations appear in red throughout the guide.

Purchase your fishing license (and more) online at www.michigan.gov/dnr
Check Web site or at license dealer for price information.

LICENSE TYPE
DNR Sportcard
Resident
24 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 24-hour period) Senior (65 or older) Restricted (Good for all species EXCEPT trout and salmon) Upgrade to All Species Senior (65 or older) Upgrade to All Species All Species (Good for all species. Required on all designated trout streams and lakes. See the Inland Trout and Salmon Guide) Senior (65 or older) Military (residents serving in the U.S. Military, who are stationed outside of Michigan) See page 4.
Nonresident
24 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 24-hour period) Restricted (Good for all species EXCEPT trout and salmon) All Species (Good for all species. Required on all designated trout streams and lakes. See the Inland Trout and Salmon Guide)
Voluntary
Young Angler All Species (Good for all species). Residents or nonresidents under the age of 17.
Sportsperson Discount
A 15 percent discount is provided when four or more licenses are purchased at one time for the same person. The 24-hour fishing license, all-species upgrade, waterfowl hunting license and restricted hunting applications are not eligible for this discount.
Lost Licenses
You may purchase a replacement license at any license dealer. You must provide the identification number used to purchase the original license. The cost of the replacement license will be determined at the license terminal.

All-species fishing licenses are required for all anglers, age 17 or older, to take and possess trout and salmon from any public waters. This license also is required when fishing the following waters:

- All trout lakes designated by the DNR under FO-200 (All Type A, all Type D and designated Type B lakes).
- All Type 5, 6 and 7 streams designated by the DNR under FO-200.
- All waters of the Great Lakes when trout and/or salmon are the target species.
- All designated trout streams (FO-210) when trout and/or salmon are the target species.
- Regulations for trout and salmon fishing on inland waters are in the ***Inland Trout and Salmon Guide***. Accessible online at: www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Fishing License Requirements:

- You must purchase a license if you are 17 years of age or older. **If you are under 17, you may fish without a license, but you are required to observe all fishing rules and regulations.**
- You must have the license in your possession when fishing and the identification used to purchase that license.
- Your fishing license is valid from March 1 of a given year through March 31 of the following year.

To purchase a fishing license, you must have:

- A valid Michigan Driver License.
- A valid Michigan ID Card (issued by the Secretary of State) with additional proof of Michigan residency, such as a Michigan voter registration card.
- A DNR Sportcard (issued by license dealers). If the information on your DNR Sportcard from a previous year is still accurate, you may continue to use it.

To qualify for a resident fishing license, you must:

- Be a person who resides in a settled or permanent home or domicile within the boundaries of this state with the intention of remaining in this state, or
- Be a full-time student at a Michigan college or university, or
- Serve full time in the U.S. Military and be officially stationed in Michigan.

The ownership of land in Michigan by itself is not qualification for a resident license.

The following special provisions exist:

Residents serving in the Armed Forces: Persons serving in the U.S. Military, who, at the time of enlistment, were residents of Michigan and have maintained residence status for the purposes of obtaining a driver license or voting and who are stationed outside the state, may purchase a resident all-species license for \$1. Applicants must present proof of military status and leave papers when applying for the discounted licenses. This license, available at DNR Operations Service Centers (see p. 24) and at license retail outlets statewide, is valid for up to two weeks during an open season. The license buyer can designate the exact fishing period.

Residents who are blind or disabled: A resident who is declared legally blind or a resident who has been determined by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs to be permanently and totally disabled and entitled to veteran benefits at the 100% rate (with proof of same) is eligible to purchase ANY of the senior fishing licenses.

Mentally disabled persons and residents of a home for the aged (licensed under the Public Health Code) may fish without a license if they are a member of a group, and accompanied by one or more licensed adults who possess a permit issued by the DNR. Permits are available at DNR Operations Service Centers (see p.24).

Lawful Fishing Methods

Bait: Any fish (except lampreys, live carp, and goldfish) and frogs may be used as bait when legally taken and possessed. Wigglers (mayfly nymphs) and other aquatic nymphs and larvae also may be used for bait, but may not be taken from any trout stream except for personal use on the same stream. Crayfish may be taken for bait for personal use. See special exceptions on Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters (p. 12).

Bow Fishing: Bows may be used on certain waters for certain species. See Table 5 (p. 11).

Dip Nets: Dip nets may be used for bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers in non-trout streams. A permit is required from a DNR office if equipment is to be left overnight. See Table 4, Netting (p. 10).

Drop-shotting: Having a weight suspended below a hook that is tied directly to the main fishing line. This gear may be used on inland lakes, Great Lakes, and Great Lakes connecting waters only. This gear **may not** be used on rivers, streams, or drowned river mouths (see Note 3, p. 6 for listing).

Gaffs: Gaffs may be used to help land lawfully hooked fish on all waters **except** on a trout stream.

Gear Restrictions: On all streams (including tributaries to the Great Lakes) from August 1 through May 31, it shall be unlawful to use multi-pointed hooks exceeding 3/8 inch between point and shank and/or single-pointed hooks exceeding 1/2 inch between point and shank. Also on all streams during this period it shall be unlawful to use lures exceeding one ounce. The Detroit R., St. Clair R. and St. Marys R. are exempt from these restrictions.

Hand Nets: Hand nets may be used to help land lawfully hooked fish. During April, May, and June, hand nets larger than 5 1/2 feet in circumference or having a handle exceeding 14 inches in length **may not** be used or possessed on designated trout streams except as provided in Table 4 (p. 10). Hand nets may also be used to take bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers. See Table 4, General Netting Regulations (p. 10).

Hook and Line Fishing: Fish so taken must be hooked in the mouth. Fish not hooked in the mouth must be returned to the water immediately. No more than two lines per person (including tip-ups) nor more than four hooks or lures may be used. **Except:** on L. Michigan, L. Huron, L. Superior and the St. Marys R., those persons in the act of trolling while targeting trout/salmon may use three rods/lines

and attach no more than six hooks total on all lines. All hooks attached to an artificial bait or "night crawler harness" are counted as one hook. Hooks must be baited or attached to an artificial bait. You may use any number of hooks on one line for taking smelt in recognized smelt waters. Tip-ups and similar devices used for ice fishing must show the angler's name and address. All lines must be under immediate control. Hook size regulations exist on certain streams (see Exceptions to General Regulations by County, p. 14-17).

Hoop Nets: May be used for burbot only on certain waters Dec. 15 - last day of February. Permit needed from a DNR office (ask for list FO-232).

Minnows For Personal Use: Minnows for personal use only may be taken with hook and line, seines, dip nets, and traps with a valid fishing license. In trout streams minnows may only be taken during the open season for trout by hook and line or minnow traps. Minnows may not be taken from Big Glen L., Hatlem Cr. (Leelanau Co.), Portage L., Torch L., the North and South Portage Canal (Houghton Co.), in that portion of L. Superior west of Big Bay Point or any of their tributaries for 1/2 mile above their mouths. Gear restrictions are as follows: Seines must not be over 12 feet by 4 feet; hand nets not over 8 feet square and without sides or walls; and minnow traps not over 24 inches long. Minnow traps must bear user's name and address. Cast nets (not exceeding 8 feet in diameter without walls or sides) may be used to take minnows, alewife, smelt, and shad in the Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, and the Detroit R., St. Clair R., and St. Marys R.

Spearing: Hand, rubber, or spring-propelled spears may be used for certain species. See Table 5 (p. 11).

It Is Unlawful To:

Possess or transport any live transgenic (genetically engineered) organisms or the following nonnative fish: bighead carp, black carp, silver carp, grass carp (white amur), members of the snakehead family (Channidae), bitterling, Ide, Japanese weatherfish, rudd, tench, Eurasian ruffe, tubenose goby, or round goby. To do so may result in civil fines up to \$10,000.

Import, plant or transplant live game fish including viable eggs of any game fish without permit.

Buy or sell fish or parts of fish, reptiles, amphibians, or crayfish taken under a sport fishing license. Take fish for the sole purpose of removing the eggs.

Take or attempt to take freshwater mussels (clams or other bivalves) whether living or dead, including the shell or parts thereof (except zebra mussels) from any waters of the state except under provisions of a cultural or scientific investigation permit from the DNR.

Take, attempt to take, or possess, any threatened or endangered species, except as authorized by the DNR. For more information, see <http://web4.msue.msu.edu/mnfi/data/specialanimals.cfm>.

Possess or sell a multi-pointed hook with a weight permanently attached.

Possess illegally taken fish or mutilated fish that cannot be measured or identified.

Possess more than the Michigan limit when fishing in Michigan waters even if holding licenses from more than one state or province.

Commercially take, possess, or sell rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*) in Michigan.

Fish for any species or possess fishing devices along a stream closed to fishing.

Fish with your hands, firearms, explosives, crossbows, setlines, poisons, or methods other than lawful fishing methods.

Fish anywhere in a fish ladder or within 100 feet of a lamprey control weir.

Use a net to take a fish within 100 feet of a dam (you may use a landing net to secure a legally hooked fish).

Use a seine for any species other than minnows.

Use cast nets in any inland water.

Possess a spear, gaff, or bow/arrow along a trout stream at any time.

Shoot reptiles or amphibians with a firearm (including spring, air, or gas propelled).

Have a weight rigidly attached to a multi-pointed hook, or suspended from a multi-point hook.

Fish on a river, stream, or drowned river mouth (see Note 3, p. 6) using a weight suspended below any hook *unless the hook is on a dropper line (a leader) that is at least 3" long*.

Deposit litter, fish offal, or any foreign matter, in any waters of the state or on any lands, private or public.

Take or attempt to take fish outside of the open season for that species.

Commercially harvest wigglers from any state waters from June 1 - Sept. 1.

Snag fish or retain a fish not hooked in the mouth.

Possess largemouth or smallmouth bass during the catch and immediate release season, see p. 18.

Free Fishing Weekends

June 10 & 11, 2006

February 17 & 18, 2007

June 9 & 10, 2007

February 16 & 17, 2008

Great Lakes Trout and Salmon Regulations (Note 1)

The regulations in this table apply to fishing on the **Great Lakes** for the following species: **Atlantic salmon, Brook trout (Note 2), Brown trout, Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, Lake trout (Note 4), Pink salmon, Rainbow trout (steelhead), and Splake (Note 4).** For regulations that pertain to fishing for trout and salmon on **inland waters**, please refer to the *Inland Trout & Salmon Guide*.

Seasons by water type	Minimum Size	Daily/ Possession Limit (Notes 2, 3)
Open all year: (Note 4) L. Superior, L. Michigan, L. Erie, L. Huron, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., Detroit R.	10" (Note 2, 4) (also see Table 1)	Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R.: 5 in any combination, but no more than 3 of any one species (UP TO 5 pink salmon allowed). EXCEPTION: St. Marys R.: 5 additional pink salmon allowed from last Sat. in April - Sept. 30.

Note 1 - All Trout and Salmon: For waters that have regulations that differ from those shown above, refer to **Exceptions to General Regulations by County** (p. 14-17).

Note 2 - Brook Trout: For L. Superior, the minimum size limit for brook trout is 20 inches and possession limit is one fish. Within 4.5 miles of Isle Royale (Isle Royale National Park waters), catch and release only; no possession.

Note 3 - Drowned River Mouth Lakes: On the following inland waters trout and salmon regulations are as follows: 5 trout and salmon in any combination; no more than 3 of any one species; no more than 2 lake trout or splake; minimum size limit is 10 inches, open all year **except** the lake trout season is open May 1 - Labor Day. **Allegan:** Kalamazoo and Silver Lks. **Benzie:** Betsie L. **Manistee:** Arcadia, Manistee, and Portage Lks. **Mason:** Pere Marquette L. **Muskegon:** Duck, Mona, Muskegon, and White Lks. **Oceana:** Pentwater, Silver, and Stony Lks. **Ottawa:** Macatawa and Pigeon Lks.

Note 4 - Lake Trout and Splake Regulations: Lake trout and splake regulations for the Great Lakes are listed by Lake Trout Management Unit (see Table 1). To help identify Management Unit boundaries, a few major ports are listed for each. The map on the next page provides a graphic to further define the boundaries. For a complete description of Management Unit boundaries, ask for FO-200 at any DNR Operations Service Center (p. 24) or check online www.michigan.gov/dnr.

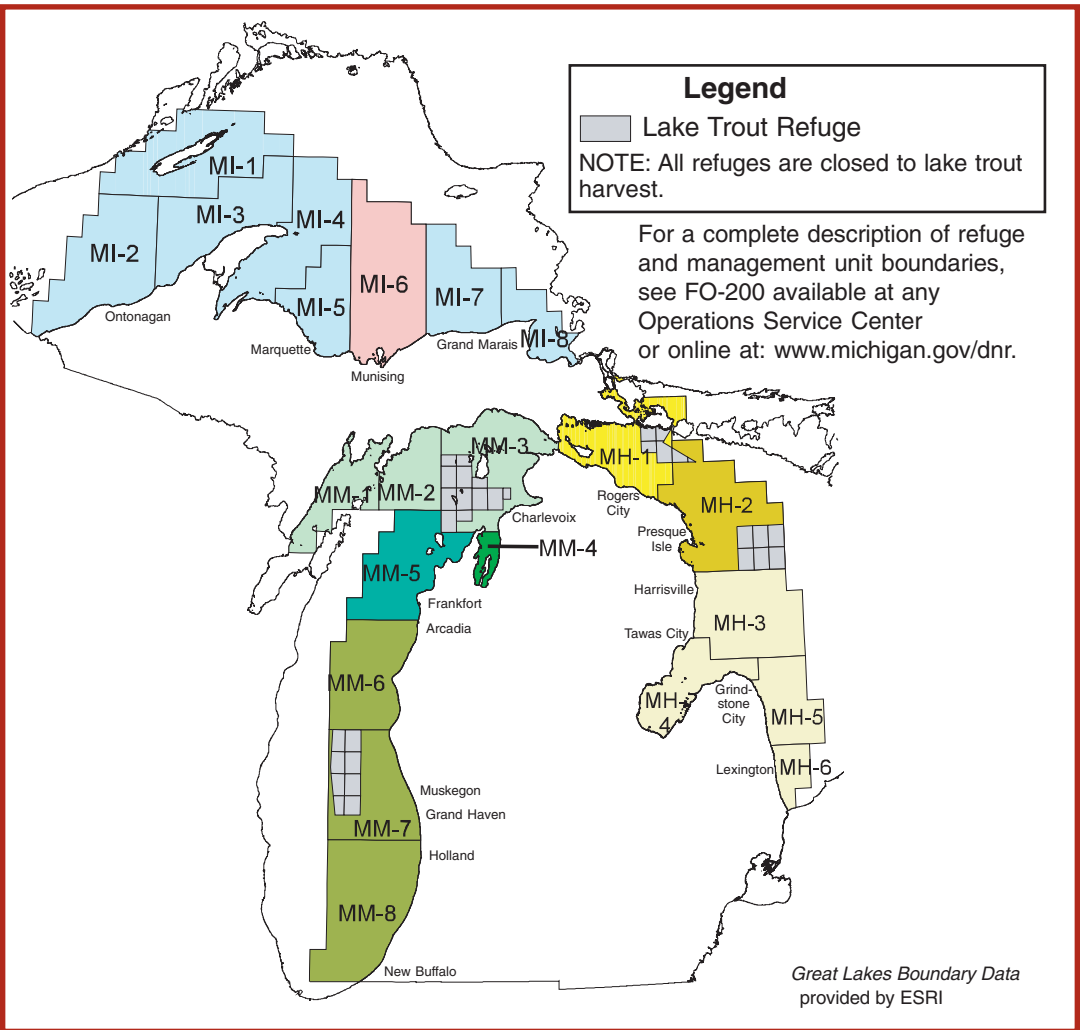
Table 1 Great Lakes Lake Trout and Splake Regulations

For splake, the minimum size limit is 10” and the season is open all year **unless otherwise noted** in the table below. The daily possession limit for lake trout and splake is 5 in any combination, but no more than 3 of any one species.

Management Unit, Major Ports	Open Season	Size Restrictions
Lake Huron:		
MH 1-2: DeTour, Cedarville, St. Ignace, Mackinaw City, Cheboygan, Rogers City, Presque Isle, Rockport, Alpena, Black R.	May 1-Sept. 30 (lake trout and splake)	The minimum size limit is 22 inches for lake trout and splake.
MH 3-6: Harrisville, Tawas, Grindstone, Harbor Beach, Lexington		The minimum size limit is 15 inches for lake trout and splake.
Lake Michigan:		
MM 1-3: Menominee, Escanaba, Manistique, Harbor Springs, Charlevoix	Jan. 1-Sept. 30 (splake open all year)	The minimum size limit for lake trout is 24 inches. NOTE: The minimum size for splake is 15 inches in the L. Michigan waters of Delta and Menominee Cos.
MM 4: Elk Rapids, Traverse City, Northport		The minimum size limit for lake trout is 20 inches and the maximum size limit is 25 inches, EXCEPT , one fish in the daily possession limit of three may be 34 inches or greater.
MM 5: Leland, Frankfort, Platte Bay	May 1-Sept. 30 (splake open all year)	The maximum size limit for lake trout is 23 inches, EXCEPT , one fish in the daily possession limit of three may be 34 inches or greater.
MM 6-8: Arcadia, Manistee, Ludington, Grand Haven, Holland, New Buffalo		The minimum size limit for lake trout is 20 inches.
Lake Superior:		
MI 1-8 : Windigo, Ontonagon, Copper Harbor, Big Bay, Marquette, Munising, Grand Marais, Pendlis Bay, Brimley State Park	Open all year (lake trout and splake)	The minimum size limit for lake trout is 15 inches.

Lake Trout Management Units and Refuges

For Lake Trout Regulations See Previous Page



Great Lakes Commercial Fishing Nets

Anglers and boaters on the Great Lakes may encounter commercial trap nets, gill nets and hook lines in most Michigan waters. All state-licensed or Native American commercial gear are required to be marked with floats and or staff/flag combinations. Anglers and boaters should give wide berth to any markers, since anchor lines may extend several hundred feet in any direction from the floats or flags and along the length of the gear. The diagrams below can assist sport anglers and boaters in avoiding entanglement of fishing gear or boat propellers.

Tampering with commercial fishing gear is illegal. Removal or destruction of marker buoys and flags or other disturbance of gear often results in the waste of a valuable resource, since the nets continue to catch fish. They also can create safety problems for others on the water.

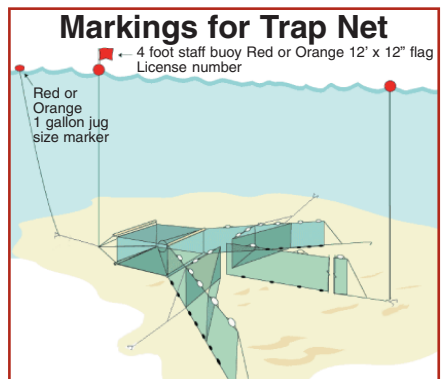
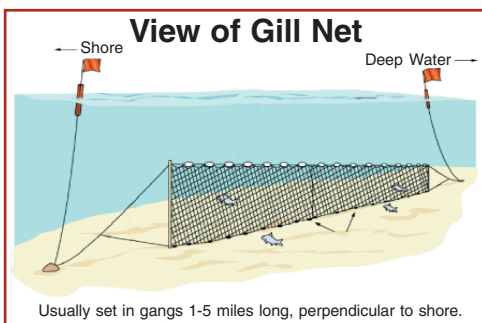


Table 2 General Hook & Line Regulations (Note 1)

This table provides general statewide regulations for the species listed. However, there are many waters in the state that have fishing regulations which differ from those in this table. Please refer to the Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters (p. 12), Sylvania Wilderness Area (p. 13), and Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p. 14-17).

Species	Minimum Size	Daily/ Possession Limit	Seasons	
Largemouth bass Smallmouth bass (Note 2)	14"	5 in any combination but no more than 2 northern pike (Note 7)	3rd. Sat. in June - Dec. 31: L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 18) Sat. before Memorial Day - Dec. 31: All other waters including Great Lakes (except those listed in Note 2)	
Walleye (Note 3)	15" except 13" on L. St. Clair St. Clair R.		May 15 - end of February: On Upper Pen. inland waters not otherwise closed to fishing, Gr. Lakes waters and St. Marys R. Last Sat. in April - March 15: On Lower Pen. inland waters not otherwise closed to fishing. Open all year: Lower Pen. Gr. Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 18)	
Northern pike (Note 7 & 8)	24"		Open all year	
Flathead catfish	15"			
Channel catfish	12"	10	May 15 - end of February: Upper Pen. inland and Gr. Lakes waters St. Marys R. Last Sat. in April - March 15: Lower Pen. inland waters Open all year: Lower Pen. waters of L. Michigan Lower Pen. waters of L. Huron L. Erie 1st Sat. in June - Dec. 15: L. St. Clair, St.Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 18)	
Muskellunge (Note 7 & 8)	42"	1		
Yellow perch (Note 4)	No size limit	50		Open all year
Sunfishes (Note 5)		25 in any combination of the listed species		
White bass		25 on Gr. Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R. 10 on inland		
Lake whitefish Lake herring (cisco)		12 in any combination		
Lake Sturgeon	Please see Table 3, p. 10 for Lake Sturgeon Regulations			
All others (Note 6)	No size limit	No possession limit	Open all year	

Notes for Table 2

Note 1 - All Coolwater fish

Coolwater fish include all species listed in this table. Regulations for trout and salmon on inland waters are included in a separate publication, Michigan Inland Trout & Salmon Guide.

Note 2 - Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

On L. Michigan, within one-half mile of the following islands of the Beaver Island Archipelago: Beaver, Garden, High and Hog, (Charlevoix Co.) the open season is July 1 - Dec. 31, (see p. 14).
Catch and immediate release seasons: On the following waters, bass may be caught and released on the dates listed. All bass caught must be immediately (see common terms p. 18) returned to the water: L. St. Clair, St. Clair R. and Detroit R., from the last Sat. in April - Fri. before the 3rd. Sat. in June; All Lower Pen. waters including Great Lakes: Last Sat. in April - Fri. before Memorial Day; All Upper Pen. waters including Great Lakes: May 15 - Fri. before Memorial Day.

Note 3 - Walleye

Little Bay de Noc (Delta Co.): No more than 1 walleye over 23" may be possessed north of a line drawn from Peninsula Point lighthouse to the mouth of the Ford R.

St. Joseph R. No more than 1 walleye over 23" may be possessed from the St. Joseph R. below Berrien Springs Dam to the mouth at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor.

L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.: The daily possession limit for walleye is 6 on these waters.

Michigan waters of Green Bay: from the mouth of the Menominee R. northward to the latitudinal line (45 degrees/15 minutes) located approximately 3 miles south of Rochereau Point: from March 2 - Fri. before 1st Sat. in May the daily possession limit is 1 walleye and from the 1st Sat. in May - March 1 the daily possession limit is 5 walleye.

Note 4 - Yellow perch

L. Huron waters of Mackinac and Chippewa Cos. and the **St. Marys R.**, the minimum size limit is 7".

L. Michigan south of the 45th parallel (excluding the Grand Traverse Bays) the possession limit is 35 perch.

Note 5 - Sunfishes

Includes: black and white crappies, bluegill, green and hybrid sunfish, longear, pumpkinseed, redear, rock bass, and warmouth.

Note 6 - All others

Those species not listed above and not listed in Table 1 (p.6).

Note 7 - Special Northern Pike & Muskellunge Regulations

Lakes with no size limit on northern pike, daily limit of 5 northern pike:

ALCONA: Badger L. **ALGER:** Nawakwa, Trout, and 16 Mile Lks. **ALLEGAN:** Pine Creek Flooding
BARAGA: Vermillac (Worm) L. **CHARLEVOIX:** Deer, Fox, Geneserath, Hoffman and Six Mile Lks.
CHEBOYGAN: Black R. upstream of Tower Dam (includes Tower Pond) and tributary streams only, Silver and Wildwood Lks. **CHIPPEWA:** Frenchman L. **CLARE:** L. **Thirteen** **CRAWFORD:** Big Creek Impoundment, River and Pickerel Lks. **DELTA:** Carr, Chicago, and Hamilton Lks. and Escanaba R. (upstream from first dam at US-2) **DICKINSON:** Sawyer L. **EMMET:** French Farm and O'Neal L. Floodings **GLADWIN:** L. **Lancer** **GOGEBIC:** African (Big and Little), Chaney, Cisco, Clearwater, East Bay, Fishhawk, Indian, Lindsley, Morley, Poor, Record, and Thousand Island Lks. **GRAND TRAVERSE:** Boardman L., Brown Bridge Pond and L. Dubonnet **HOUGHTON:** Rice L. **IRON:** Bone, Buck, Indian, Runkle and Winslow Lks., Hemlock Falls and Michigamme Reservoirs, Michigamme Falls and Peavy Reservoirs, Lake St. Kathryn, Deer R., Net R., and Net R. Wide Waters. **KENT:** Bass L. **LEELANAU:** Florence L. (S. Manitou Is.), artificial lures only **LUCE:** East and Muskallonge Lks. **MACKINAC:** East L. **MANISTEE:** Bar L. **MARQUETTE:** Cedar L., Engman L., Dead R. Storage Basin, Witch L., Middle Br. Escanaba R., Big West Br. Escanaba R., and Escanaba R. (upstream from first dam at US-2) **MASON:** Hackert L. (Crystal L.) **MECOSTA:** Haymarsh L. **MENOMINEE:** Westman Impoundment **MISSAUKEE:** Missaukee L. **MONTMORENCY:** East and West Town Corner Lks., Black River and tributary streams only **MUSKEGON:** Big Blue L. **OCEANA:** Round (Wykoff) L. and Silver L. **OGEMAW:** L. **Ogemaw** **OSCEOLA:** L. Miramichi, Rose L. and Wells L. **OSCODA:** Pickerel L. **OTSEGO:** Black R. and tributaries **PRESQUE ISLE:** Francis L., Ocqueoc R. and tributary streams upstream of, but not including Ocqueoc Lk., Ocqueoc Watershed Lakes (Ann, Bullhead, Ella, Emma, Ferdelman, Gorman, Horseshoe, Lost, Louise, Lower and Upper Barnhart, May, McIntosh, Moore, Mud and Nettie), Black R. and tributary streams only (not including Tomahawk Flooding) **ROSCOMMON:** L. St. Helen, Backus Cr., Mud L., and Little Mud L. Waterfowl Flooding **SCHOOLCRAFT:** Boot, Crooked, Kennedy, Stanley and Thunder Lks.; **Seney National Wildlife Refuge Pools** - contact Refuge office (906-586-9851).

Lakes with 30" minimum size on Northern Pike:

ALGER: Duck and Echo Lks. (Grand Island) possession limit of 1 northern pike. **BARRY:** Fish L. **IRON:** Cable and Porter Lks. **KEWEENAW:** Gratiot L. **MARQUETTE:** Fish L. **SCHOOLCRAFT:** Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.

Lakes with Northern Pike and Muskellunge possession seasons the last Sat. in April - Nov. 30:

BARRY: Thornapple L. (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.) minimum size on muskellunge is 50".
LENAWEE: L. Hudson **VAN BUREN:** Bankson L., Brownwood L., and Round L. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13).

Notes for Table 2 continued next page—

Note 8 - Restricted Spearing Lakes

The following lakes are closed to spearing, except that carp may be taken with a spear or bow from May 1 – Aug. 15 and northern pike may be speared on waters as marked(†) from Jan. 1 - end of February. Be sure to check the Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p. 14-17).

Lakes closed to spearing (except carp may be speared May 1 – Aug. 15):

- ALLEGAN:** Osterhout L.

ALPENA: Fletcher Floodwaters

BARRY: Fish L. and Thornapple L. (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.)

CHEBOYGAN: Cornwall Impoundment

CHIPPEWA: Caribou L.

CLARE: Budd L.

CLINTON: Ovid L.

DELTA: †Dana L.

IRON: Cable, Emily, Porter, Stanley, †Brule, †Chicagon, †Chief Edwards, †Paint, †Paint Pond, and †Violet Lks.

KENT: Campau and Murray Lks.

KEWEENAW: Gratiot L.

LAPEER: Nepessing L.
- LENAWEE:** L. Hudson

LIVINGSTON: Whitmore and Woodland Lks.

MACKINAC: Brevort L.

MARQUETTE: Fish L.

MONTMORENCY: Fletcher Floodwaters and West Twin Lks.

MUSKEGON: Mona L.

OAKLAND: Heron and Tipsico Lks.

OTSEGO: Big Bear and Otsego Lks.

OTTAWA: L. Macatawa

ST. JOSEPH: Long L. (Fabius Twp. T6S, R12W, sec 7)

SCHOOLCRAFT: Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.

VAN BUREN: Bankson, Brownwood, and Round Lks. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13)

WASHTENAW: Whitmore L.

Table 3 Lake Sturgeon
Hook & Line only (*Except Black L. Cheboygan Co., special spearing season)

Open Season (Note 1)	Gear, Harvest, and Size Restrictions	
July 16 - Nov. 30 Great Lakes and connecting waters (except L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.), all inland waters except Otsego L. & Black L. (Cheboygan Co.)	Catch and release only No possession	
July 16 - Sept. 30 L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.	Between 42" - 50". All fish less than 42" and greater than 50" must be released immediately.	1 per season
July 16 - March 15 Otsego L. (Otsego Co.)	50" minimum	
1st. Sat. in Sept. - Sept. 30 All MI-WI boundary waters (see Note 2, p. 12)	60" minimum (See Table 6, p. 12)	
1st Sat. in February - Sun. following the 2nd Sat. in February Black L. (Cheboygan Co.)	Lottery Draw Only - 5 fish quota for the season Tags will be issued by random drawing. Contact DNR Gaylord office 989-732-3541 for details	
*Spearing for lake sturgeon is prohibited, except in Black L. (Cheboygan Co.) under special lottery permit. Note1: A locking harvest tag must be obtained prior to fishing. Successful anglers must tag the fish and register it immediately (within 24 hrs.) at a designated registration station, contact DNR for locations and to obtain a tag. Fish being released should not be tagged. Information is available online: www.michigan.gov/dnr .		

Table 4 General Netting Regulations

The following gear restrictions apply for the species, seasons and water listed below:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Hand Nets may be of any circumference and handle length.● Dip Nets may not exceed 9 x 9 feet square nor be erected or fished within 100 feet of any dam.● Seines may only be used for minnows except under a scientific collector's permit issued by the DNR. FO-229 is available from DNR Operations Service Centers (page 24).		
Species	Seasons	Nets and Waters
Bowfin Carp Gar Smelt Suckers	March 1 - May 31	Hand Nets: South of M-72 Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., and Detroit R., and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229)
	April 1 - May 31	Hand Nets: North of M-72 (including Upper Peninsula) Great Lakes, St. Marys R. and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229)
	April 1 - May 31	Dip Nets: All Lower Peninsula non-trout streams
	May 1 - May 31	Dip Nets: All Upper Peninsula non-trout streams
Burbot	Dec. 15 - end of February	Hoop Nets: Permit required from DNR office. Peshekee R. (Marquette Co.); AuTrain R. (Alger Co.) from AuTrain L. to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Baraga Co.) from M-38 bridge to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Houghton Co.)

Table 5 Bow and Spear Fishing

A hand-propelled spear may be used on the following waters. In addition, a bow, light, spring-propelled or rubber-propelled spear may be used as indicated. Size and possession limits are the same as for General Hook and Line Regulations – Table 2 (p. 8); inland non-trout waters are those inland waters except Designated Trout Lakes (*see FO-200) and Designated Trout Streams (see FO-210); For exceptions to these regulations, see Note 8 - Restricted Spearing Lakes (p.10), Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Regulations (p.12), Sylvania Wilderness Area (p. 13), and Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p.14-17).

Season	Waters	Species
January - February	All waters (through the ice) except: Designated Trout Lakes (*see above), and Streams (FO-200), and Note 8 waters (p.10). No muskellunge spearing on L. St. Clair, L. Erie, Detroit R., and St.Clair R.	Northern Pike Muskellunge
	L. St. Clair (bow may be used)	Yellow perch
January - February	(bow and light may be used) Inland non-trout waters (through the ice): See Note 8 (p. 10)	Bowfin Lake herring Bullheads (cisco) Carp Smelt Catfish Suckers Drum Whitefish Gar
All year (Note 1)	(bow and light may be used) Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R.	
All year	Great Lakes	Burbot
April 1 - May 31 South of Hwy. M-46	(bow and light may be used) All non-trout streams or Trout streams listed in FO-219	Bowfin Carp Gar Suckers
April 15 - May 31 Between M-46 and M-72		
May 1 - 31 North of Hwy. M-72		
All Year	Waters listed in FO-219 as open to the use of rubber-propelled or spring-propelled spears when used as noted in FO-219 list.	
May 1 - Aug. 15	(bow and light may be used) Inland non-trout waters	Bowfin Carp Gar
Oct. 15 - Dec. 31	(light may be used) Hubbard L. (Alcona Co.), Ottawa, Chicagon L. (Iron Co.)	Carp Lake herring (cisco) Suckers Whitefish
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	(light may be used) Elk L., Torch L., Clam R. (Grand Traverse, Antrim, Kalkaska Cos.); Crystal L. (Benzie Co.) All inland non-trout waters in lower peninsula counties wholly south of M-20 (including all of Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Cos.)	

Note 1: In Little Bay de Noc, bowfin, carp, and gar may be speared only in January and February. In Lakes Superior, Huron, and Michigan, whitefish may not be speared during November.

Michigan-Indiana Bordering Lakes

Residents of either the state of Indiana or the state of Michigan, fishing in any of the waters listed below and who possess a valid fishing license for either state, shall be permitted to fish therein only in accordance with the laws and regulations of the state having jurisdiction over that portion of the waters in which fishing is done.

Clear Lake - Indiana, St. Joseph Co./**South Clear Lake** - Michigan, Berrien Co.

Indian Lake - Indiana, Elkhart Co./Michigan, Cass Co.

Fish Lake - Indiana, La Grange Co./Michigan, St. Joseph Co.

Lake George - Indiana, Steuben Co./Michigan, Branch Co.

Long Lake - Indiana, Steuben Co./Michigan, Hillsdale Co.

Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Water Regulations

These rules and regulations supersede all others governing fishing on Michigan/Wisconsin boundary waters that in any way conflict. Where regulations of Michigan and Wisconsin differ, persons shall comply with the regulations of the state in whose territorial waters they are fishing.

The interstate boundary waters in which fishing is to be governed by the special regulations are: **The L. Michigan waters between the breakwalls at the mouth of the Menominee R. beginning at an imaginary line drawn between the most lakeward point of each breakwall. Menominee R., its sloughs and impoundments** (Menominee, Dickinson, Iron Counties, Michigan; Florence, Marinette Counties, Wisconsin); **Brule R.** (Iron County, Michigan; Florence and Forest Counties, Wisconsin); **Brule Island Impoundment**, upstream to a line running east-west through the first island upstream from the junction of the **Brule and Paint Rivers** (Iron County, Michigan; Florence County, Wisconsin); **Smoky L.** (Iron County, Michigan; Vilas County, Wisconsin); **Norwood L., Lac Vieux Desert, Crystal L., Mill L., Big Bateau L., Mamie L., West Bay L., Big L., Crampton L., Plum L., Tenderfoot L., Roach L., Little Presque Isle L., Cyrus L., Basin L., Stateline L.** (Gogebic County, Michigan; Vilas County, Wisconsin); **East Fork Montreal R. up to the mouth of Layman Cr.** (Gogebic County, Michigan; Iron County, Wisconsin); **Montreal R.,** (Gogebic County, Michigan; Iron County, Wisconsin).

Legal fishing methods

- Up to three lines per person with a total of three (3) hooks or baits may be used.
- Lines must be attended at all times.
- Dip nets not exceeding nine (9) feet square or in diameter, without walls may be used in the Menominee R. from April 1- May 14 for taking of suckers, redhorse, carp, smelt, and burbot (**except** from Hattie Street Bridge in Marinette-Menominee to the first dam upstream and within 200 feet of all other dams).
- Fish shanties used in ice fishing must be legibly marked with the name and address of owner. In Wisconsin boundary waters, fish shanty doors cannot be locked from inside during occupancy.
- You may fish from a motorboat with the motor running or a sailboat under sail except in Wisconsin boundary waters of Vilas County.
- All residents of Michigan and Wisconsin holding a sport fishing license from their respective state or residents of other states who possess a sport fishing license issued by Michigan or Wisconsin may fish in the boundary waters.
- Crayfish may not be possessed or used for bait on Michigan-Wisconsin boundary waters.

Table 6 Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (Hook & Line)

Species ^{Note 1}	Water	Season	Minimum Size (inches)	Possession Limit
Trout , Salmon	Smoky L., Montreal R., and Menominee R. mouths to 1st dam.	Open all year	10"	5
	Menominee R. and Montreal R. above 1st dam.	Last Sat. in April - Sept. 30	7"	
	Brule R. mouth to US-2		Brook Trout 8" Brown Trout 12"	
Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass	All boundary waters	1st Sat. in May - Fri. before 3rd Sat. in June	catch and release	
		3rd Sat. in June - Nov. 30	14"	5 in combination
Walleye, Sauger	All boundary waters except rivers and impoundments	1st Sat. in May - March 1	15"	5 in combination
	All rivers and impoundments	March 2 - Fri. before 1st Sat. in May		1
		1st Sat. in May - March 1		5 in combination
Northern pike	All boundary waters	1st Sat. in May - March 1	none	5
Bluegills, Crappies, Sunfish, Yellow perch	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	25 in combination
Muskellunge ^{Note2}	All boundary waters	May 15 - Nov. 30	40"	1
Lake Sturgeon ^{Note2,3}	All boundary waters	1st Sat. in Sept. - Sept. 30	60"	1 per season
Channel catfish	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	10
All others	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	none

Note 1: No fishing during the closed season on trout in the **Brule R.** upstream from U.S. Hwy 2 bridge (T41N, R32W, Sec. 9) Iron Co., MI and the **Montreal R.** above Superior Falls flowage. **Note 2:** For the Menominee R. (from Hattie St. Dam to the end of the breakwalls in Green Bay) the minimum size limit for Muskellunge is 50" and daily possession limit of lake sturgeon is 0. **Note 3:** A locking harvest tag must be obtained prior to fishing. Successful anglers must tag the fish and register it immediately (within 24 hrs.) at a designated registration station, contact DNR for locations and to obtain a tag. Fish being released should not be tagged.

Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations

Special Provision Lakes — Gogebic County

The following special provision lakes are subject to the regulations that follow: Banks, East Bear, West Bear, Clark, Corey, Cub, Deer Island, Dorothy, Elsie, Fisher, Florence, Germain, Glimmerglass, Golden Silence, Hay, Helen, High, Honey, Jay, Johnston Springs, Katherine, Kerr, Liluis, Lois, Loon, Louise, Marsh, Moss, Mountain, Snap Jack, Trapper, and Whitefish Lakes.

Seasons

Statewide seasons apply on all fish species **except that no fishing shall be allowed before the last Sat. in April or after Oct. 31 of each year.**

Size Limits

- Lake trout: not less than 30 inches.
- Walleye: not less than 20 inches.
- Northern pike: not less than 30 inches.
- All other species: no size limit.

Possession Limits

- Largemouth or smallmouth bass must be returned immediately to the water without injury, and may not be possessed on the special provision lakes of the Sylvania Wilderness Area.
- Northern pike, walleye, lake trout: not more than 1 fish of any of these species.
- All other species: 10 singly or in any combination of species.

Method of Take

- Hook and line fishing only, not to exceed 2 single lines, or 2 single rods and lines, or a single line and a single rod and line, to which may be attached not to exceed a total of 4 hooks on all lines. All hooks attached to a manufactured artificial lure shall be counted as 1 hook.
- Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. "Artificial lure" means any lure that is man-made, in imitation of or as a substitute for natural bait, used to attract fish for the purpose of taking them, and shall include artificial flies.
- Live bait, dead or preserved bait, organic or processed food, or scented material **may not be used or possessed** at any time on special provision Sylvania Wilderness Area lakes.

Table 7 Amphibians and Reptiles

Regulations for Frogs, Toads, Salamanders, Turtles, Lizards and Snakes

Amphibians and reptiles MAY NOT be shot with firearms (including spring, air, or gas propelled) or bow and arrow. The following shall not be taken or possessed except as authorized by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources: Blandings, spotted, wood, and eastern box turtle; black rat snake, eastern fox snake, copperbelly watersnake, kirtlands snake and massasauga rattlesnake; boreal chorus frog, Blanchards cricket frog; smallmouth salamander, marbled salamander; all reptile eggs; and amphibians and reptiles protected under Part 365 (Endangered Species) of 1994 P.A. 451. For further information, ask for list FO-224. Personal Use: A fishing license is required to take frogs and turtles for personal use and as such may not be bought, sold, or offered for sale. Hand, trap, nets, seines (up to 12 x 4 feet overall dimensions), and hook and line may be used. Set lines may not be used to take turtles. Frogs may be speared but NOT with the aid of an artificial light. Traps used (or possessed) in areas frequented by reptiles must have a plate or tag attached bearing the name and address of the user in legible English. For taking turtles, no more than three (3) traps may be used, mesh traps must be no less than one (1) inch mesh, and traps must be set to allow turtles to surface and breathe. Commercial Use: A commercial amphibian and reptile license is required to take turtles and frogs for commercial sale. The take is restricted to snapping turtles and green frogs (<i>Rana clamitans</i>). License applications are available from DNR Customer Services (517- 373-1204).				
Species	Season	Minimum Size (inches)	Possession Limit	
			Personal Use	Commerical Use
Frogs and Toads	Last Sat. in May - Nov. 15	none	10 in any combination	0
Green frogs (<i>Rana clamitans</i>)				25 per day 50 total
Salamanders & Mudpuppies				0
Snapping turtles	Upper Peninsula July 15 - Sept. 30	12" minimum carapace length	3 per day 6 total	10 per day 50 total
Soft shell turtles	Lower Peninsula July 1 - Sept. 30	none	3 per day in any combination	0
All other turtles, snakes, and lizards (except as noted above).	Open all year			

Exceptions to General Regulations by County

Many water bodies have special regulations that differ from the general regulations for Hook and Line Fishing (Table 2, p. 8), General Netting Regulations (Table 4, p. 10), and Bow and Spear Fishing (Table 5 p. 11). The following is a list of waters, organized by county, with special regulations **that are NOT included in the following sections of the Fishing Guide:** General Regulations tables cited above; Special Northern Pike and Muskellunge Regulations (p. 9); Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Regulations (p. 12); and Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations (p. 13).

ALGER: **Towes Cr. and W. Br. Whitefish R.** from lamprey barrier to signs 500 ft. downstream open to dipping April 1 - May 31. **Au Train R. to Au Train L.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February **Rock R.** closed to fishing from dam to lower foot bridge downstream from M-28 (T47N, R21W, Sec. 15) April 1 - June 30. **Duck and Echo Lks.** (Grand Island) fishing restricted to artificial lures only; live, dead, or preserved baits, scented material, or organic food may not be used; catch and release on smallmouth bass; possession limit on all other species is 5 fish in any combination.

ALLEGAN: **Swan Cr.** from mouth to dam at 118th Ave. fishing restricted to one single-pointed unweighted hook not more than 3/8" from point to shank; from mouth upstream to diversion dam ("The Tubes," T2N, R14W, Sec. 9) closed to fishing Sept. 1 - Nov. 30. **Osterhout L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

ALPENA: **Beaver L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Fletcher Floodwaters** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to spearing all other species.

ANTRIM: **Birch L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Intermediate R.** closed to fishing from Bellaire Dam to M-88 Bridge April 1 - May 14.

ARENAC: **Saganing Cr.** (upstream from State Rd.) and **Pine R.** (upstream from State Rd.) closed to fishing March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April **Au Gres R. and Rifle R.** [from end of Steve's Rd., (T19N, R5E, Sec. 9), upstream] are closed to dip netting.

BARAGA: **CRAIG LAKE STATE PARK** waters (**Clair, Craig, Crooked, Keewayden, Nelligan, Teddy, and Thomas Lks.**) artificial lures only; northern pike, muskellunge, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass must be released, minimum size on walleye is 13", no size limit on other species; possession limit on walleye is 2; otherwise, all general rules apply. Motorboats of all types prohibited on all except Thomas and Keewayden Lks.; **Sturgeon R.** from Prickett Dam downstream to mouth of Clear Cr. (T50N, R35W, Sec. 12) closed to all fishing April 1 - June 30; open to burbot netting downstream from the M-38 Bridge Dec. 15 - end of February.

BARRY: **Williams L.** open season is April 1 - Dec 15, catch and release only. **Thornapple L.** (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.) and **Fish L.** closed to all spearing except carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15.

BAY: **Kawkawlin R.** and all tributaries upstream of Euclid Ave., and **Saganing Cr.** (upstream from State Rd.) and **Pine R.** (upstream from State Rd.) closed to fishing March 16 through the Fri. before the last Sat. in April On the **Kawkawlin R.** downstream from Euclid Ave. and the **Saginaw R.** and all tributaries, the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used on both the **Saginaw R.** main stem and **Kawkawlin R. main stem**); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be attached rigidly to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

BENZIE: **Platte R.** restricted to only one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank; closed to fishing within 300 ft. of upper (hatchery) and lower weir all year; closed to fishing from upper weir downstream to Platte L. Jan. 1 - March 31. **Betsie R.** closed to fishing all year within 100 feet of lamprey barrier and fish passage facility (T25N, R15W, Sec. 2). **Cold Cr.** closed to dip netting.

BERRIEN: No more than 1 walleye 23" or larger may be possessed from the **St. Joseph R.** below Berrien Springs Dam to the mouth at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor.

CASS: **Corey and Stone Lks.**, minimum size limit on largemouth bass is 10".

CHARLEVOIX: **L. Charlevoix** and tributaries to 1/2 mile above their mouth open to hand nets for bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers, April 1 - May 31. **Medusa Cr.** and area of L. Michigan for a radius of 100' of mouth closed to fishing when weir is in place. **Boyne R.** from mouth upstream to dam in T32N, R5W, Sec. 5 restricted to one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank. On L. Michigan, within one-half mile of the following islands of the **Beaver Island Archipelago: Beaver, Garden, High and Hog** the open season for largemouth and smallmouth bass is July 1 - Dec. 31 (no catch and release season prior to July 1).

CHEBOYGAN: **Cheboygan R., Indian R., or Black R.** unlawful to fish during April and May with spear, bow and arrow, dip net, or gaff. **Black R.** between Kleber Dam and Red Bridge (T35N, R1E, Sec. 5) unlawful to fish in any manner during April and May. **Lower Black R.** from Alverno Dam down to Mograin Bridge, no fishing April 1 - May 15. **Black L.** and tributaries no commercial minnow take;

sturgeon fishing prohibited except under special lottery permit (see p. 10). **Douglas L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing when marsh is in operation. **Cornwall Impoundment** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Hemlock L.** no fishing. **Tower Pond** northern pike spearing permitted during January - February through the ice.

CHIPPEWA: Potagannissing R. from Potagannissing Dam downstream to Maxton Rd. (T42N, R6E, Sec. 15) closed to fishing March 16 - May 14. **L. Huron and St. Marys R.**, yellow perch minimum size is 7". **Caribou L.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

CLARE: Budd L., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

CLINTON: L. Ovid, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

CRAWFORD: Wakeley L. open season June 15 - Aug. 31, catch and release fishing with artificial lures; live bait in possession is unlawful. **Jones L.** open season June 1 - Sept. 30, catch and release fishing with artificial lures; live bait in possession is unlawful.

DELTA: Dana L., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; and northern pike may be speared Jan. 1 - end of February closed to all other spearing. **Days R.** from lamprey barrier downstream 500', **Escanaba R.** from mouth upstream to 1st dam, **Ford R.** downstream from Jaeger Rd., **Rapid R.** from Rapid R. falls down to County Rd. S. 15, open to hand nets for smelt and suckers April 1 - May 31. **Whitefish R.** downstream from US-2 walleye season May 15 - end of February; possession limit 5, but no more than 1 over 23". **Little Bay de Noc**-north of the Saunders Pt.-Squaw Pt. line and tributaries, spearing is permitted only during January and February **Little Bay de Noc** north of a line from Peninsula Point lighthouse to the mouth of the Ford R.; walleye possession limit 5, but no more than 1 over 23". **Garden Corners Borrow Pit** (T40N, R18W, Sec. 3) and **Rapid R. Borrow Pit** (T41N, R21W, Sec. 34) closed to fishing all year. **L. Michigan** the minimum size limit on splake is 15" on the L. Michigan waters of Delta County.

DICKINSON: Fumee L. county ordinance currently prohibits access for the purpose of fishing. However, the following regulations remain in effect: open season July 1 - Sept. 30; catch and release only; artificial lures with barbless hooks only; live bait, dead or prepared bait, organic or processed food, or scented material may not be used or possessed on the waters or shore.

Hamilton, Louise, and Mary Lks., possession limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass from the last Sat. in May - June 20 is 0. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.12).

EMMET: Bear R. from mouth upstream to Howard Rd. Bridge (T34N, R5W, Sec. 6) restricted to one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank.

GENESEE: Flint R. downstream from the Holloway Dam and all tributaries, the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used upstream of Hamilton St. Dam and all respective tributaries T7N, R7E, S7); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be rigidly attached to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

GOGEBIC: Sylvania Wilderness Area regulations (see p. 13).

GRAND TRAVERSE: Boardman R. closed to fishing whenever weir is in place from 300' above to 300' below; closed to fishing Sept. 1 - Oct. 31 from north Union Street Bridge in Traverse City downstream to US-31 Bridge. **Unnamed Cr.** closed to dip netting from Green L. upstream to Bridges L.

HOUGHTON: Portage L. Ship Canal spearing permitted in January, February only. **Portage L.** and canal, **Torch L.** for 1/2-mile above mouth open to dip netting Apr. 1 - May 31. **Sturgeon R.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February.

IONIA: Woodard L. possession limit for walleye is 0.

IOSCO: Au Gres R. from M-65 to mouth dip netting prohibited. **Au Gres R.** from 50' upstream of Allen Rd. bridge to 500' downstream closed to all fishing March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April **E. Br. Au Gres R.** between DNR lamprey barrier and Legget Rd. closed to fishing Dec. 1 - Fri. before last Sat. in April **Au Sable R.** from Foote Dam (including the apron) to 175' downstream from the dam closed to fishing all year. **Van Etten Cr.** from dam at Van Etten L. to mouth at Au Sable R. closed to fishing Aug. 15 - Nov. 30.

IRON: Brule, Chicago, Chief Edwards, Paint, and Violet Lks., and Paint Pond, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; and northern pike may be speared Jan. 1 - end of February closed to all other spearing. **Cable, Emily, Porter, Stanley Lks.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Stager L.** walleye possession limit is one 18" or larger. **Winslow L.** walleye possession limit is 0. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.12). **Chicago and Ottawa Lks.**, daily limit of 5 whitefish. **Ottawa L.** possession of largemouth and smallmouth bass is 0.

ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK (phone 906-482-0984): Michigan fishing laws apply and state

license required on L. Superior waters of park. Artificial baits only on inland waters. On L. Superior, within 4.5 miles of Isle Royale, the possession of brook trout is 0.

KENT: Campau and Murray Lks., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Long L.** (T10N, R11W, Sec. 31) possession limit for walleye is 0.

KEWEENAW: Gratiot L., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

LAKE: Baldwin R. from Upper Dam at Old Baldwin Hatchery site downstream to the P.A.S. south boundary fence, including raceways (T17N, R13 W, Sec. 3), closed to all fishing Tues. following Labor Day until the last Sat. in April.

LAPEER: Nepessing L. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

LEELANAU: Leeland R. closed to fishing Oct. 1 - Nov. 30. **North Manitou L.** bass minimum size length is 18", the possession limit is 1; artificial lures only. **Florence L.** (S. Manitou Is.) artificial lures only. **Houdek Cr.** closed to dip netting.

LENAWEE: L. Hudson, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

LIVINGSTON: Spring Mill Pond (Island Lake Recreation Area) March 15 - March 31 no fishing; April 1 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April, catch and release of trout with artificial lures only; last Sat. in April - March 14 statewide regulations apply. **Whitmore and Woodland Lks.**, carp may be speared May 1- Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

LUCE: Twin Lks. minimum size limit on largemouth and smallmouth bass is 18", possession limit is 1. Unlawful to launch or retrieve motorized vessel (greater than 5 horsepower) from state land on the **E. Branch Fox R.** from M-28 to the mouth of **Cold Cr.**

MACKINAC: Brevoort L. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Les Cheneaux Channels** spearing permitted January and February only. **Mackinac, Shephard, and Flower Bays** closed to fishing March 15 - May 14. **L. Huron** yellow perch minimum size is 7".

MANISTEE: Little Manistee R. 300' either side of weir closed to fishing all year; from 300' above weir to Spencers Bridge closed to fishing Jan. 1 - March 31; also from 300' below DNR weir to mouth closed to fishing Sept. 1-Nov. 14 and Jan. 1 - March 31. **South end of Manistee L.** (south of a line from red post 110 ft. south of boat launch on east side of lake to a red post near south end of Packaging Corp. on west side of lake), closed to fishing Sept. 6 to Oct. 15 or to when the quota of chinook eggs has been taken.

MARQUETTE: Peshekee R. open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February. **Deer L. Basin**, Carp R. downstream from M-28 (T47N, R27W, Sec. 4), and all other tributaries to Deer L. Basin, possession limit is 0. Fishing restricted to artificial lures, catch and release only; live bait, dead or prepared bait, organic or processed food, or scented materials may not be possessed on the water or the shore. **Fish L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing; largemouth and smallmouth bass minimum size 18" and possession limit is 1 bass only. **Salmon-Trout R.**, from Lower Falls to mouth closed to fishing Aug. 15 - Fri. before last Sat. in April.

MASON: Pere Marquette R. from 300 feet below lamprey barrier (T18N, R16W, Sec. 21) upstream to Black Cr. closed to fishing when lamprey barrier is in operation. **Sable R.** (from mouth upstream to Hamlin L. Dam) restricted to 1 single - pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank.

MECOSTA: Muskegon R./Hardy Impoundment from Roger's Dam downstream to below the south-bound lane of US-131 is closed to all fishing from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April.

MENOMINEE: Big Cedar R. down from mouth of Elwood Cr. (T35N, R25W, Sec. 11) open to dipping, April 1 - May 31. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.12). **L. Michigan** the minimum size limit on splake is 15" on the L. Michigan waters of Menominee County.

MIDLAND: Tittabawassee R. between Sanford Dam and mouth of the **Salt R.** and between Dow Dam and Gordonville Bridge, closed to fishing from March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **On the Chippewa, Pine, Salt, and Tittabawassee R. and all their tributaries** the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows; natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be rigidly attached to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

MONROE: Huron R. and Stony Cr. (downstream from Finzel Rd., T5S, R8E, Sec. 23) closed to dip netting.

MONTMORENCY: East Fish, West Fish, and Middle Fish Lks., Fuller Cr. Pond, Hunt Cr. above Section Z bulkhead (T29N, R2E, Sec. 25), and **Fuller Cr.** (in the Hunt Cr. Trout Research Station Area) no fishing. **Fletcher Floodwaters and West Twin L.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **North and South Blue Lks. and Robarge L.**, open season is the last Sat. in April - Sept. 30, catch and release only, artificial lures only.

MUSKEGON: Mona L. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

NEWAYGO: **Baptist L.**, possession limit for walleye, channel catfish, flathead catfish, and all bullheads is 0; **Brush and Sand Lks.**, possession limit for channel catfish, flathead catfish, and all bullheads is 0.

OAKLAND: **Heron and Tipsico Lks**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

OGE MAW: **Jewett L.** open season is May 15 - Sept. 30, and fishing is restricted to artificial lures only and catch and release; permit needed in addition to license.

ONTONAGON: **W. Br. Ontonagon R.** from confluence with Victoria Hydro tailrace upstream to Victoria Dam is closed to fishing April 1 - June 10. **Union Springs** closed to all fishing. **Lake of the Clouds** fishing restricted to artificial lures only, no bait of any type may be used or possessed, no spearing, catch and release on smallmouth bass (possession of smallmouth prohibited regardless of where taken).

OTSEGO: **Big Bear and Otsego Lks.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **N. Twin, S. Twin, Lost, W. Lost, Ford, and Section 4 Lks.** in Pigeon R. trout area, no fishing. **Otsego L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Otsego L.** see sturgeon regulations (p. 10).

OTTAWA: **L. Macatawa**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

PRESQUE ISLE: **Black L. and tributaries** no commercial minnow take. **Clinton Cr.** closed to fishing April and May. **Grand L. Pike Marsh** unlawful for any person other than state employee to use or operate a motorized vehicle on the access road leading from US-23 to the Grand L. Pike Marsh during March, April, and May. **Grand L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Rainy R.** from confluence with Black L. upstream to N. Allis Rd. Bridge (T35N, R2E, Sec. 15) closed to fishing April 1 - May 14. **Shuberts Cr.** from Long L. upstream to Clinton Cr. Rd. (T33N, R7E, Sec 14), closed to fishing April 1 - May 31. **Swan R.** from 300' above weir to mouth closed to fishing whenever weir is in place.

ROSCOMMON: **Backus Cr.** from confluence with Cut R. upstream to Little Mud L. Dam closed to fishing March 23 - April 23. **Cut R.** from confluence with Backus Cr. upstream to outlet at Marl L. closed to fishing March 23 - April 23. **Houghton L.** no spearing. **Denton Cr.** closed to fishing March 23 - April 23.

ST. JOSEPH: **Big Pleasant and Corey Lks.**, minimum size limit for largemouth bass is 10". **Long L.** (Fabius Twp.) carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Sand L.**, Flathead catfish possession limit is 0.

SAGINAW: **On the Bad, Cass, Flint, Saginaw, Shiawassee and Tittabawassee Rivers and all their tributaries** the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used on the Saginaw R., Swan Cr. and tributaries, and the Bad R. and tributaries upstream from confluence with Pickerel Cr. T10N, R3E, Sec. 4); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be attached rigidly to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

SCHOOLCRAFT: **Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Thompson Cr.** closed to use of handnets; closed to fishing upstream of US-2 from Sept. 1 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April. **Seney National Wildlife Refuge** waters have limited fishing, contact Refuge office (906-586-9851). On the **BIG ISLAND COMPLEX LAKES (Big Island, Bluegill, Blush, Byers, Coattail, Klondyke, McInnes, Mid, Townline, and Vance)** no wheeled or motorized vehicles (including electric or outboard motors); artificial lures only; spearing, netting, and use of live bait prohibited; muskellunge or northern pike open season May 15 - Nov. 30, minimum size limit 42", and possession limit is 1; bass open season Sat. before Memorial Day - Nov. 30, minimum size limit 18", and possession limit is 1; perch, bluegill, and pumpkinseed sunfish open season last Sat. in April - Nov. 30, possession limit is 5 fish in combination; all other fish open season last Sat. in April - Nov. 30. Unlawful to launch or retrieve motorized vessel (greater than 5 horsepower) from state land on the **E. Branch Fox R.** from M-28 to the mouth of **Cold Cr.**

VAN BUREN: **Dowagiac R. and tributaries** above 50th St. and Lake of Woods outlet to confluence of Dowagiac R. open to spears, bow and arrow, and hand net. **Bankson, Brownwood, and Round Lks.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

WASHTENAW: **Whitemore L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Huron R.** from Mast Rd. Bridge in Dexter (T1S, R5E, Sec. 32) downstream to Delhi Rd. Bridge (T2S, R5E, Sec. 2) catch and release only on largemouth and smallmouth bass. **Horseshoe L.** largemouth bass possession limit is 1, minimum size is 14"; northern pike possession limit is 1, sunfish (Note 5 p.9) possession limit is 10.

WAYNE: **Huron R.** from Belleville Dam downstream to mouth closed to dip netting.

Common Terms

Artificial Fly means any commonly accepted single hook wet and dry flies, streamers, and nymphs without spinner, spoon, scoop, lip or any other fishing lure or bait attached. The fly or leader may be weighted but no weight shall be attached to the fly or to the terminal tackle in a manner that allows the weight to be suspended from or below the hook.

Artificial Lure means a manmade lure manufactured to imitate natural bait. Artificial lures include spoons, spinners and plugs made of metal, plastic, wood and other non-edible materials. They also include plastic products made to resemble worms, eggs, fish and other aquatic organisms.

Cast Net means a net not exceeding eight feet in diameter without walls or sides that is thrown to take minnows, alewives, smelt and shad in the Great Lakes and connecting waters.

Catch and Immediate Release means each fish must be returned immediately to the water without injury, and may not be possessed. When practicing catch and release, please follow these suggestions to reduce the risk of injury to the fish:

- Land your catch carefully and quickly. Avoid handling the fish at all and remove the hook with pliers.
- Use a landing net made of soft or knotless mesh and always try to net your fish head first.
- Try to keep the fish in the water and gently cradle it while carefully removing the hook.
- Leave your fish in the water until you are ready to take a photo.
- Keep your fingers out of the fish's gills since a torn gill could cause the fish to bleed to death.
- Touch your fish as little as possible. Always wet your hands when touching your fish.
- Cut the line near the hook if a fish is deeply hooked. A steel hook will rust away leaving the fish unharmed.
- Release your fish, pointing it into a slow current or gently moving it back and forth until its gills are working properly and the fish regains its balance. Once fully recovered, allow the fish to swim from your hands (big fish may take longer to recover).

Daily Limit means the total number of fish, amphibians or reptiles that you are permitted to catch and keep in one day. Also see Possession Limit.

Designated Trout Lake means any lake so designated by the state in which trout are the predominant game fish (ask for FO-200) and **Designated Trout Stream:** any stream so designated by the state that contains a significant population of trout or salmon (ask for FO-210). You must have an all-species license to fish these waters.

Detroit R. begins at the imaginary line extending due south of the Windmill Point Light, Wayne County and ends at the imaginary east-west line drawn through the most southerly point of Celeron Island.

Dropper Line is a line in addition to the main fishing line, that contains a hook. Dropper lines usually are attached to the main line.

Drop-shotting involves using a weight suspended below a hook that is tied directly to the main fishing line.

Drowned River Mouth Lakes are considered inland waters and all are listed in Note 3 on p. 6.

FO is a Fisheries Order issued by the DNR Director that implements fishing regulations. FO's can be found online at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Great Lakes Connecting Waters means specific bodies of water in Michigan that connect the Great Lakes. Designated connecting waters are L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R. (St. Clair R. begins at the Ft. Gratiot Light) and the Detroit R.

Hand and Landing Net means a mesh bag of webbing or wire, suspended from a circular, oval or rectangular frame attached to a handle. These are the most common fishing nets used in Michigan.

Hook means a single, double or treble pointed hook. A hook, single, double or treble pointed and attached to a manufactured artificial lure shall be counted as 1 hook.

Inland Waters means all waters in Michigan except the Great Lakes and the Great Lakes connecting waters.

Minnows are chubs, shiners, dace, stonerollers, sculpins (muddlers), mudminnows and suckers of a size used for bait in "hook and line" fishing. See page 5.

Possession Limit is equal to the Daily Limit. Except a person may possess up to two (2) additional limits of coho, chinook, or pink salmon taken during previous fishing days provided that the additional limits are processed fish (canned, cured by smoking or drying, or frozen). Anglers who have not attained the age of 17 are entitled to the possession limit even though they do not have a fishing license. A person fishing waters bordered by other states or provinces AND possessing multiple fishing licenses may possess the limit allowed for ONLY ONE license while in transit, but while fishing in Michigan waters, must comply with Michigan possession and size limits.

Snagging means attempting to take fish in a manner that the fish does not take the hook voluntarily in its mouth. It is unlawful to snag fish.

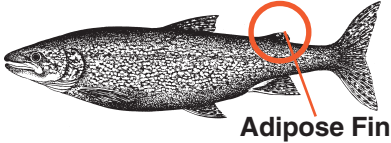
Trapping means to catch or take by use of a device, such as a cage or net, designed to capture a fish or animal.

Weir means a fence or enclosure set in water to block or retain fish.

Marked and Tagged Fish

In evaluating fish stocks, the DNR often marks fish with a fin clip, external tag, or an internal tag. **If you catch one of these fish, please record the following information and notify the nearest DNR Operations Service Center (see p. 24): species, length, weight, sex (if possible), date and location caught, and fin clip or tag number. If releasing the fish, please do not remove the tag.**

Many Great Lakes trout/salmon have been marked with a microscopic coded-wire tag implanted in the head of the fish. Fish with these tags can be identified by the absence of the adipose fin (see diagram). If you catch a trout or salmon with ONLY its adipose fin missing, that fish could have such a tag. Please record the information cited above, freeze only the head and take it to (or notify) the nearest Fisheries office. **Do not mail it!** Drop sites are listed on the DNR Web site, www.michigan.gov/dnr or call 517-373-1280. Thank you for your assistance.



Angler Rights On Public Streams

On fenced or posted property or farm property, a fisherman wading or floating a navigable public stream may, without written or oral consent, enter upon property within the clearly defined banks of the stream or, without damaging farm products, walk a route as closely proximate to the clearly defined bank as possible when necessary to avoid a natural or artificial hazard or obstruction, including, but not limited to, a dam, deep hole, or a fence or other exercise of ownership by the riparian owner.

Railroad Rights-Of-Way

Railroad rights-of-way are private property. Trespassing on railroad property, including trestles and bridges, is a misdemeanor. You must have written permission of the railroad company to be exempt from railway trespass.

Harassment

Anglers in Michigan have the right to enjoy their sport free from unreasonable and deliberate interference. Michigan law prohibits individuals from obstructing or interfering with the lawful taking of aquatic species. The DNR supports fishing as a legitimate form of recreation and as a useful tool in the management of aquatic resources. Michigan Conservation Officers are committed to protecting anglers from the intentional disruption of the fishing experience. Individuals whose fishing is being obstructed should promptly report the violation to the DNR by calling a local conservation officer, the nearest DNR office (see p.24) or toll free 800-292-7800 (RAP hotline).

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)

When selecting a PFD, read the label to make sure it is for a person of your size and weight. Try your PFD on to make sure it fits properly and check to make sure it is U.S. Coast Guard approved.

Craft under 16 feet long:

If your boat is less than 16 feet long or it is a canoe or kayak, you must choose either wearable or throwable PFDs. You must still have one PFD for each person on board. The U.S. Coast Guard requires all vessels less than 16 feet, used on the Great Lakes or connecting waterways, to carry one wearable approved Type I, II, or III device for each person on board.

Craft 16 feet or longer:

If your boat is 16 feet or longer, you must have on board at least one Throwable Device (Type IV PFD), **PLUS** one of any of these wearable PFDs for each person on board:

- Offshore Life Jacket (Type I PFD)
- Near-shore Buoyant Vest (Type II PFD)
- Flotation Aid (Type III PFD)

Michigan law requires:

- Everyone operating, riding on, or being towed by a personal watercraft must wear Type I, II, or III PFD.
- Persons less than six years old must wear a Type I or Type II PFD when riding on the open deck area of a boat underway.

Fishing Tournament Information

Fishing tournament permits can be obtained by visiting www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis. Click on the water body search link then enter a water body name and click on the access site name for information.

Ice Shanties

A person placing a shanty on the ice for fishing shall permanently affix their name and address on ALL SIDES of the shanty in legible letters at least 2 inches in height. The letters shall be readily visible and consist of material not soluble in water. The name and address must be on the shanty and may not be placed on a board or other material that is then attached to the shanty. Tents or other temporary shelters that are removed from the ice each day do not require identification.

Persons placing a shanty on the waters of the **Upper Peninsula** shall remove the shanty by midnight of March 31 of any year.

Persons placing a shanty on waters in the counties of **Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Arenac, Bay, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Emmet, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Iosco, Isabella, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Montmorency, Newaygo, Oceana, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, or Wexford** shall remove the shanty by midnight of March 15 of any year. Persons placing a shanty upon the waters of the remaining portion of the Lower Peninsula shall remove the shanty by midnight on March 1 of any year. Shanties placed on L. St. Clair shall be removed before sunset on the first Sunday after February 20 of any year. **In all areas, a shanty must be removed if ice conditions become unsafe, regardless of the date. After the above dates, a shanty must be removed at the end of each day's fishing activity.**

Boat Registration

For information about boat registration, please see “The Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws & Responsibilities” available online www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Lead Alternatives

The DNR would like to remind anglers that lead can cause mortality when ingested by mammals and birds. There are nontoxic alternatives to lead such as tin, bismuth, steel, and tungsten-nickel alloy for use in jigs, sinkers and other gear. These materials can be found at established sporting goods retailers and on the Internet.

Aquatic Invasive Plants and Animals

Michigan waters are threatened by nonnative aquatic invasive plants and animals such as the zebra mussel, round goby, sea lamprey, Eurasian ruffe, Eurasian watermilfoil, rusty crayfish, and spiny water flea. These species and others are harmful to recreational fishing and do extensive economic and natural resource damage. Anglers should learn to identify nonnative species they may encounter and take precautions to prevent their spread. These actions include:

- Removing all visible aquatic plants and animals from your boat, motor, trailer, and accessory equipment before leaving the access area.
- Draining live wells and all water from boats before leaving the access area.
- Power washing boats and trailers wherever possible.
- Thoroughly drying boats and all equipment for at least 5 days before launching into a different water body.
- Disposing of live bait and aquatic animals in the trash. Do not release live bait into the water and never use live or dead aquatic invasive animals such as round goby or rusty crayfish as bait.

In 2005, several bills were signed into law establishing lists of restricted and prohibited aquatic invasive species and rules and penalties for possession. Please review the Unlawful Activities section of the guide for more information. Natural resource managers are concerned about introduction of new species and have set up an Angler’s Monitoring Network to report any discoveries. Anglers should save and report unidentified fish to the nearest DNR Operations Service Center listed on the back cover of this booklet. If you have any questions, contact an Operations Service Center or visit www.michigan.gov/deq-anglers-monitoring-network.



This year, reconnect with someone you care about ... TAKE THEM FISHING! Get information and get going at www.takemefishing.org

Master Angler Awards

Patches are awarded to all entries meeting established minimum weights, or, in the case of Catch and Release, minimum lengths. However, no more than one patch per species will be awarded to each angler per year. Master Angler Certificates are awarded to anglers who catch State Record fish or one of the top 5 fish of each species in both the Catch and Keep and Catch and Release category.

To enter the Master Angler Program, complete an application form and send it to: Fisheries Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Box 30446, Lansing MI 48909. This information is required under the Authority of Part 487 of 1994 P.A. 451, as amended. Applications are available at all locations and on our Web site.

Minimum Entry Lengths/Weights and Current State Records

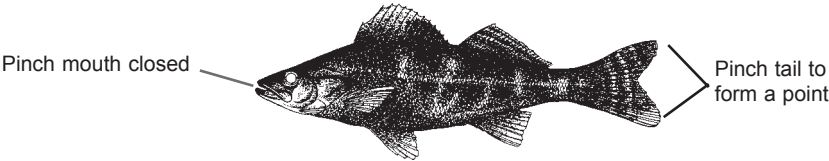
Catch and Release Entries must meet minimum length

Catch and Keep Entries must meet minimum weight

Species	Minimum Entry Length (inches)	Minimum Entry Weight (lbs. -oz.)	Current State Record (lbs. -oz.)	Species	Minimum Entry Length (inches)	Minimum Entry Weight (lbs. -oz.)	Current State Record (lbs. -oz.)
American Eel	32"	3-0	7-7	Musky, Tiger	42"	20-0	51-3
Bass, Largemouth	22"	6-0	11-15	Northern Pike	40"	18-0	39-0
Bass, Rock	11"	1-0	3-10	Perch, White	10"	0-8	1-14
Bass, Smallmouth	21"	5-0	9-4	Perch, Yellow	14"	1-13	3-12
Bass, Warmouth	9"	1-0	1-6	Salmon, Atlantic	33"	12-0	32-10
Bass, White	16"	2-0	6-7	Salmon, Chinook	41"	27-0	46-1
Bluegill	10"	1-0	2-12	Salmon, Coho	32"	12-0	30-9
Buffalo, Big Mouth	32"	20-0	----	Salmon, Pink	21"	3-0	8-9
Buffalo, Black	26"	10-0	33-4	Smelt***	10"	None	12"
Bullhead, Black	14"	1-4	3-7	Splake	25"	6-0	17-8
Bullhead, Brown	14"	1-8	3-10	Sucker, Longnose	17"	2-0	6-14
Bullhead, Yellow	14"	1-8	3-9.6	Sucker, N. Hog	13"	1-8	2-8
Bowfin	27"	7-0	14-0	Sucker, Redhorse	22"	4-0	12-14.2
Burbot	26"	5-0	18-4	Sucker, White	20"	3-0	7-3
Carp	30"	20-0	61-8*	Sunfish, Green	9"	0-12	1-8
			45-0**	Sunfish, P.Seed	9"	0-12	1-5.6
Carp sucker	19"	3-0	8-0	Sunfish, Redear	10"	1-0	1-15.5
Catfish, Channel	27"	8-0	40-0	Trout, Brook	17"	2-0	9-8
Catfish, Flathead	29"	10-0	47-8	Trout, Brown	33"	16-0	34-10
Crappie, Black	14"	1-12	4-2	Trout, Lake	34"	18-0	61-8
Crappie, White	14"	1-12	3-6	Trout, Rainbow (Steelhead)	34"	17-0	26-8
Freshwater Drum	21"	7-0	26-0	Walleye	29"	11-0	17-3
Gizzard Shad	16"	1-8	4-2	Whitefish, Lake	23"	6-0	14-4.5
Lake Herring	16"	2-8	5-6	Menominee	15"	1-0	4-0
Lake Sturgeon	50"	70-0	193-0				
Longnose Gar	32"	5-0	18-0				
Musky, Great Lks.	42"	20-0	48-0				
Musky, Northern	42"	20-0	49-12				

*State Record Carp; **Largest hook and line caught Carp; ***The minimum entry requirement for Smelt is 10" for both catch and keep and catch and release entries. The Smelt State Record is by length rather than weight.

Length Measurement Directions: Measure fish from tip of nose (or lower jaw) to tip of tail in a straight line (DO NOT measure in a curve around the body from nose to tail). Measure to the closest 1/8th inch. Tail and jaw should be pinched together.

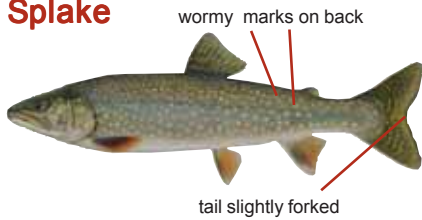


Fish Consumption Advisory

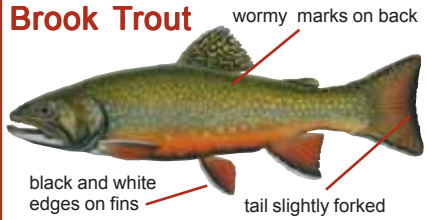
The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) advises women of childbearing age and children under 15 to use caution when eating certain kinds and sizes of fish from the Great Lakes and from some inland lakes and streams. Fish in these waters contain levels of toxic chemicals that may be harmful if those fish are eaten too often. The Michigan Fish Advisory, compiled by MDCH, shows you which fish are okay to eat and how often they can be eaten. The Fish Consumption Advisory is available online at: www.michigan.gov/mdch or by contacting the MDCH, SIXTH FLOOR, LEWIS CASS BUILDING, 320 SOUTH WALNUT STREET, LANSING MI 48913, phone: 517-373-3740 or TTY 517-373-3573.

Know Your Fish — Common Fish Species

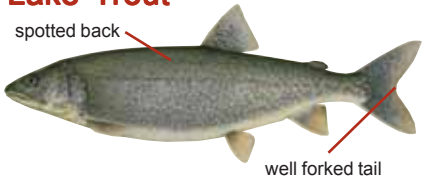
Splake



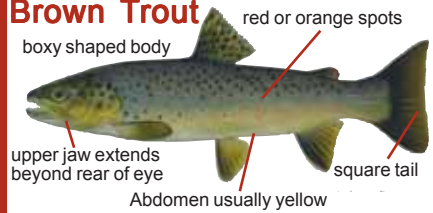
Brook Trout



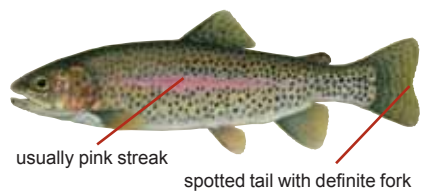
Lake Trout



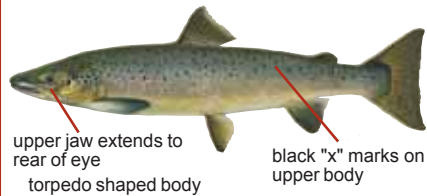
Brown Trout



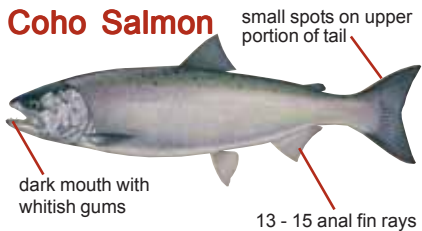
Rainbow Trout



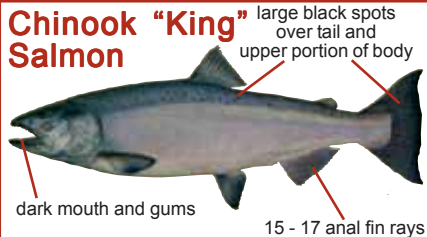
Atlantic Salmon



Coho Salmon



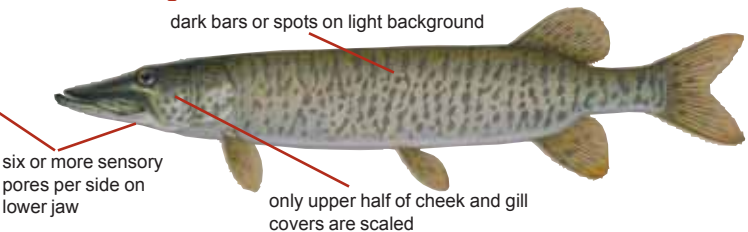
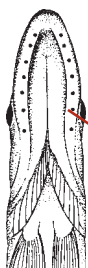
Chinook "King" Salmon



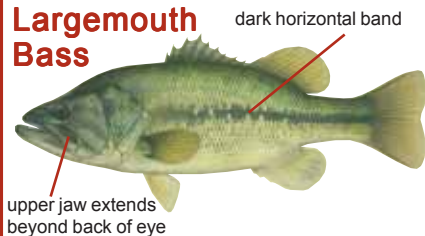
Northern Pike



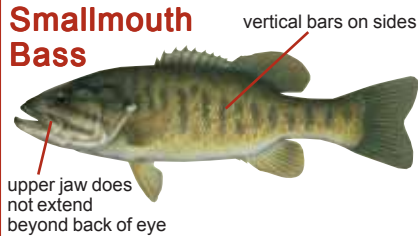
Muskellunge



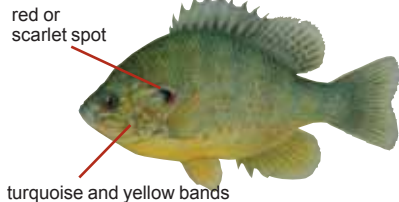
Largemouth Bass



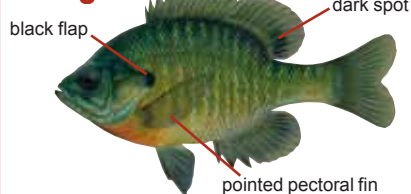
Smallmouth Bass



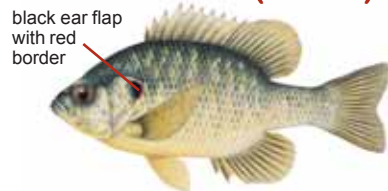
Pumpkinseed (Sunfish)



Bluegill



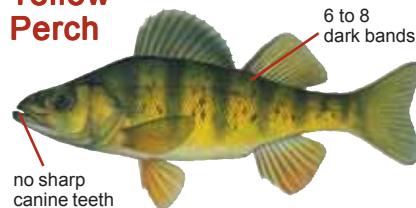
Redear Sunfish (female)



Rock Bass



Yellow Perch



Black Crappie



Walleye



Flathead Catfish



Channel Catfish



Illustrations by —
Joseph R. Tomelleri

Anglers: We Need Your Help

Beginning this year, to reduce costs to the Game and Fish Fund which pays for fishing programs in Michigan, the DNR is publishing a two-year fishing guide. **The regulations contained in this booklet will be in effect for two complete fishing seasons — April 1, 2006 through March 31, 2008.**

Although all fishing regulations now will be in effect for two seasons, anglers still must purchase a new fishing license each year. In order to help us achieve our objectives to cut costs, anglers are being asked to keep their fishing guide for use in both the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 fishing seasons.

Anglers who may misplace their copy of the fishing guide, or who may need additional copies, may access a printer-friendly version on the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Thank you for purchasing a Michigan fishing license. Your purchase of a fishing license supports the work of department employees who manage and protect Michigan's abundant aquatic resources. We encourage you to keep fishing and to share your experiences with others. In doing so, you can do your part to keep our state's fishing heritage alive for future generations.

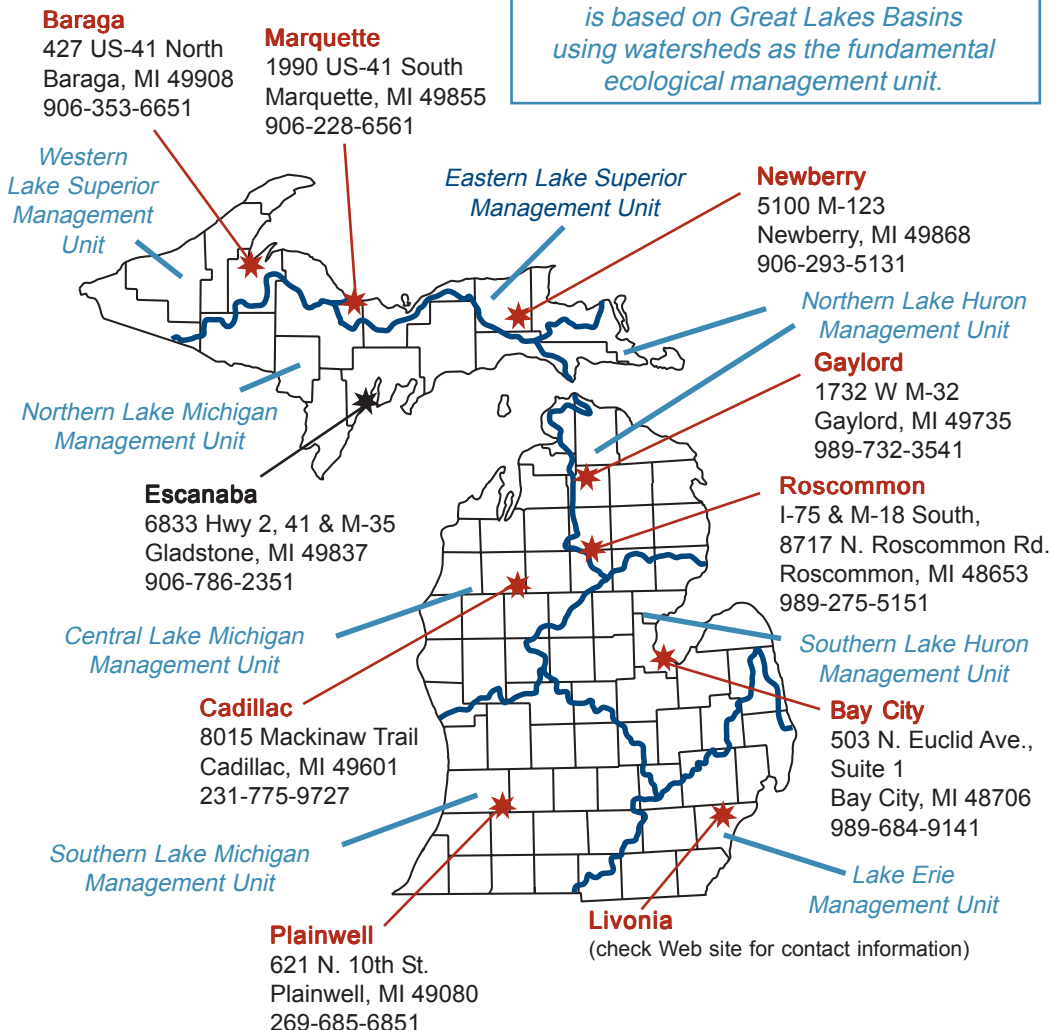
The **Operations Service Centers** shown below are open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TTY — Hearing Impaired...711 (Michigan Relay Center)

Weekly Fishing Report...517-373-0908

On the Web at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Fisheries Division's organizational structure is based on Great Lakes Basins using watersheds as the fundamental ecological management unit.



NOTICE: This brochure is not a legal notice or a complete collection of fishing regulations and laws. It is a condensed guide issued for anglers' convenience. Copies of fisheries orders can be obtained from our Web site, www.michigan.gov/dnr.

REPORT ALL POACHING Call: 800-292-7800

TTY — Hearing Impaired. 711 (Michigan Relay Center)